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ROYAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO CERTAIN
DEATHS AT THE HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN AND
RELATED MATTERS.

Hearing held
8th floor
180 Dundas Street West
Toronto, Ontario

The Honourable Mr. Justice S.G.M. Grange

Commissioner

P.S.A. Lamek, Q.C.

Counsel

E.A. Cronk

Associate Counsel

Thomas Millar

Administrator

Transcript of evidence
for
February 20, 1984

VOLUME 106

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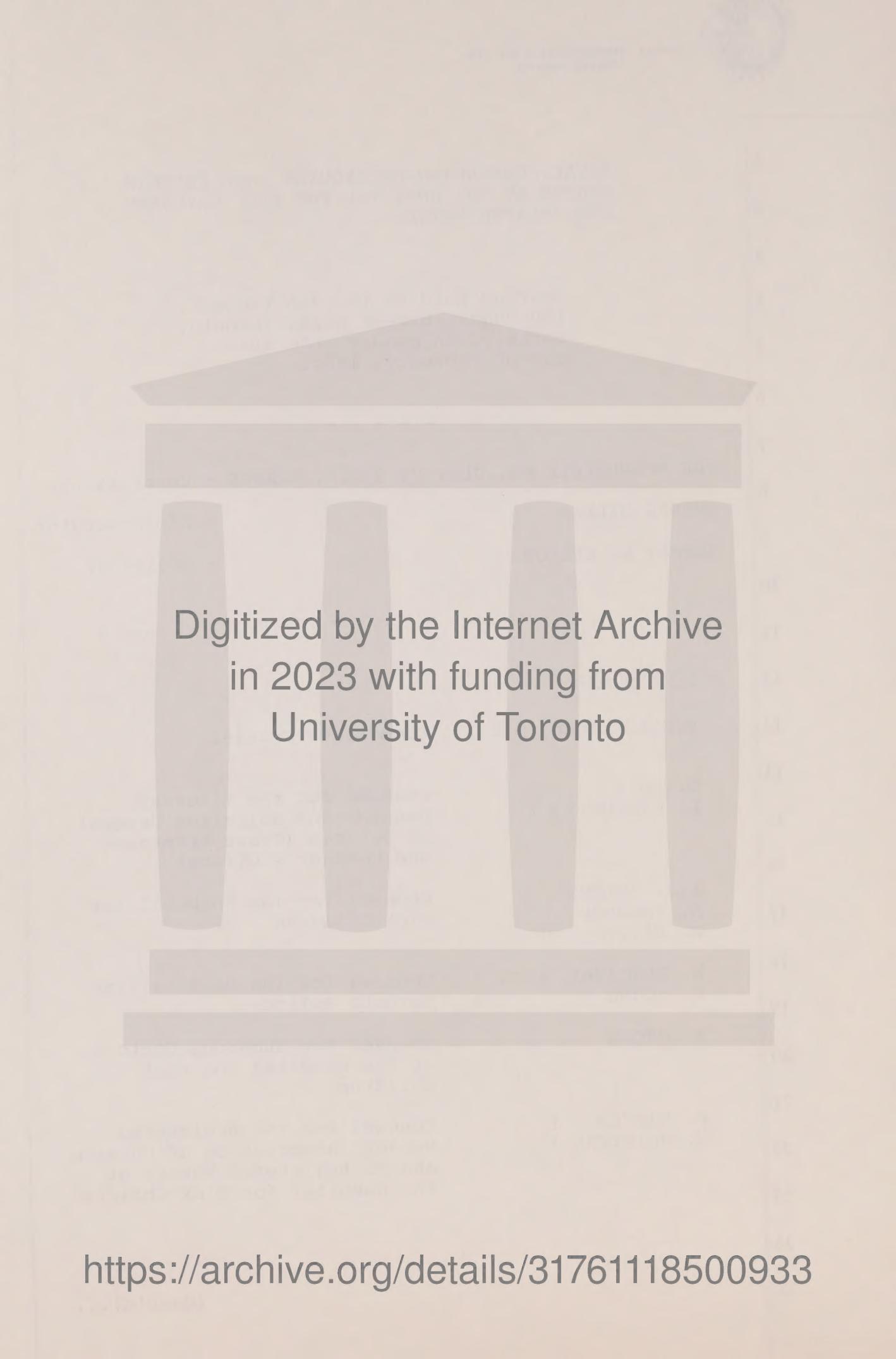
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4 Hearing held on the 8th Floor,
5 180 Dundas Street West, Toronto,
6 Ontario, on Monday, the 20th
7 day of February, 1984.
8

9 THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE S.G.M. GRANGE - Commissioner
10 THOMAS MILLAR - Administrator
11 MURRAY R. ELLIOT - Registrar
12

13 APPEARANCES:

14 P.S.A. LAMEK, Q.C.) Commission Counsel
15 D. HUNT) Counsel for the Attorney
16 L. CECCHETTO) General and Solicitor General
of Ontario (Crown Attorneys
and Coroner's Office)
17 I.J. ROLAND) Counsel for The Hospital for
M. THOMSON) Sick Children
R. BATTY)
18 B. PERCIVAL, Q.C.) Counsel for The Metropolitan
D. YOUNG) Toronto Police
19 K. CHOWN) Counsel for numerous Doctors
at The Hospital for Sick
Children
20 F. KITELY) Counsel for the Registered
E. MCINTYRE) Nurses' Association of Ontario
and 35 Registered Nurses at
The Hospital for Sick Children
21
22
23
24
25

(Cont'd)...



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1

APPEARANCES: (Continued)

2

D. BROWN Counsel for Susan Nelles -
Nurse

3

4

E. FORSTER Counsel for Phyllis Trayner -
Nurse

5

J.A. OLAH Counsel for Janet Brownless -
R.N.A.

6

B. KNAZAN Counsel for Mrs. M. Christie -
R.N.A.

7

8

S. LABOW Counsel for Mr. & Mrs. Gosselin,
Mr. & Mrs. Gionas, Mr. & Mrs.
Inwood, Mr. & Mrs. Turner, Mr. &
Mrs. Lutes, and Mr. & Mrs.
Murphy (parents of deceased
children)

9

10

F.J. SHANAHAN Counsel for Mr. & Mrs. Dominic
Lombardo (parents of deceased
child Stephanie Lombardo); and
Heather Dawson (mother of
deceased child Amber Dawson)

11

12

W.W. TOBIAS Counsel for Mr. & Mrs. Hines
(parents of deceased child
Jordan Hines)

13

14

J. SHINEHOFT Counsel for Lorie Pacsai and
Kevin Garnet (parents of
deceased child Kevin Pacsai).

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VOLUME 106

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E R R A T A

Volume 102 - Monday, February 13, 1984

Page 3111, Lines 13, 16, 23 - "Bilodeau" should be
"Vielleur"

Page 3112, line 3 - "Adamo" should be "Adario"

Page 3113, line 10 - "Bilodeau" should be "Vielleux"

Volume 103 - Tuesday, February 14, 1984

Page 3351, line 7 - "release" should be "relief"

Page 3419, line 19 - "flowing" should be "falling"



1 INDEX OF WITNESSES

2	NAME	Page No.
3	COULSON, Kathleen (Sworn)	4106
4	Direct Examination by Mr. Lamek	4106



1

2

--- Upon commencing at 2:30 p.m.

3

THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, Miss Kitely.

4

MS. KITELY: Mr. Commissioner,

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before Mr. Lamek gets on with the next witness, I wonder if I might have a brief opportunity on the same topic that we dealt with last Thursday.

8

Might I say, sir, that I have reviewed the transcript of the hearing on February 16th with Gail Paech, the President of the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario. She and I have concluded that the controversy over statements made outside of the hearing room is unfortunate and may detract from the important issues before this Commission.

14

On Thursday last I indicated that there was no intention, either on my part or the part of representatives of the RNAO to offend the Commissioner or this Commission. I would like to emphasize this lack of intention.

18

The President of the RNAO and I
regret that offence has been taken either by you, sir,
or by other counsel at this hearing. We hope that
this expression of regret will assist in bringing
this unfortunate controversy to an end.

20

Thank you for your indulgence, sir.

23

THE COMMISSIONER: I note two things.

24

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First that you say nothing about whether you had
intended to offend other counsel. You say nothing
about what your intentions are in future.

5

Are those deliberate?

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First that you say nothing about whether you had
intended to offend other counsel. You say nothing
about what your intentions are in future.

Are those deliberate?

MS. KITELY: In my remarks I indicated,
sir, that there was no intention to offend the
Commissioner or the Commission and that is meant in
a literal way to include --

THE COMMISSIONER: Is that to include --

MS. KITELY: -- other lawyers too,
sir.

THE COMMISSIONER: It would have
been better if you had added that.

MS. KITELY: Yes, sir.

THE COMMISSIONER: What about your
intentions in the future?

MS. KITELY: That is a problem, sir,
which we have grappled with at some length over the
weekend, and I would like to be in a position to
give you certain assurances. I cannot do that, sir.

The Registered Nurses' Association
is a large organization. We are not in a position
to say what I think is necessary to satisfy you,
and so I can give you no assurances about the future.

THE COMMISSIONER: You say you



1

2

can't give me any assurances with regard to your
clients. What about yourself? Can you give me any
assurances with regard to yourself as to your conduct?

5

MS. KITELY: No, sir.

6

7

THE COMMISSIONER: Yes. All right,
thank you.

8

Thank you, Mrs. Kitely.

9

MS. KITELY: Thank you, sir.

10

THE COMMISSIONER: Mr. Lamek?

11

MR. LAMEK: May I call, please,
Miss Kathy Coulson.

12

MR. ROLAND: Mr. Commissioner, before
we start with Miss Coulson I just would like to
let you know that thanks to the efforts of
Miss Thomson we have produced for Mr. Lamek tour end
reports. We have bound a volume for him. There are
a great many of them, and we have provided him with
a loose volume as well so that he can xerox them for
the rest of the counsel. We haven't been able to
do all that but we provided all of them with an
index and numbered pages.

21

THE COMMISSIONER: Very good.

22

MR. ROLAND: Miss Thomson was working
all weekend.

23

THE COMMISSIONER: I am grateful to

24

25



1

2

you, and I am even more grateful to Miss Thomson.

3

4

MR. LAMEK: I certainly agree with that, Mr. Commissioner. I haven't had a chance to look at them yet. Perhaps therefore I can reserve putting them in as an exhibit until tomorrow morning.

5

THE COMMISSIONER: Yes.

6

KATHLEEN COULSON, Sworn

7

DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. LAMEK:

8

Q. Miss Coulson, you are employed by the Hospital for Sick Children?

9

A. Yes, I am.

10

Q. Currently I understand in the Research Institute?

11

A. That is correct.

12

Q. What are your duties there, please?

13

A. I am the nurse co-ordinator for the Spontaneous Abortion Mycoplasma Study.

14

Q. I'm sorry, could you give me the name of the study again, please?

15

A. I am nurse co-ordinator for the Spontaneous Abortion Mycoplasma Study.

16

Q. And you have occupied that position I understand since September of last year?

17

A. That is right.

18

19



1

2

Q. Prior to that what were your
duties at the Hospital?

3

A. I was head nurse on an infant
medical floor.

4

Q. Which floor, please?

5

A. 4D as in David.

6

Q. And in the period from July,
1980 to March 1981, the period which is of particular
interest to us, I understand you were a nursing
supervisor?

7

A. Yes, I was one of the 11:00 to
7:00 nursing supervisors.

8

Q. Working the night shift so I
understand?

9

A. That is right.

10

Q. I believe you had worked at
the Hospital for Sick Children in that capacity since
February of 1980?

11

A. That is right.

12

Q. Very briefly by way of back-
ground you received your nursing training at St. Mary's
General Hospital in Kitchener?

13

A. That is right.

14

Q. And graduated in 1969 as a
registered nurse?

15

16



1

2

A. Yes.

3

Q. As I understand it your very
4 first job after graduation, a nursing job at the
5 Hospital for Sick Children?

6

A. That is right.

7

Q. You were a staff nurse there
8 on 4D?

9

A. That is right.

10

Q. That as I understand it is an
infant medical ward?

11

A. Yes.

12

Q. Then you got a little bit of
13 a travel bug as I understand it. In 1972 you went
14 to Bermuda for a year?

15

A. Yes.

16

Q. And worked there as a nurse?

17

A. Yes.

18

Q. Subsequently you spent some
time travelling in Europe and on your trips to Canada
19 you would work as a per diem nurse at the Hospital
20 for Sick Children?

21

A. That is right.

22

Q. In 1973 you worked, although as
I understand it, not as a nurse, at the Sancta Maria
23 House which is a halfway home for teenage girls.

24

25



1

2

A. Yes.

3

Q. Operated under the auspices of
4 the Ministry of Corrections?

5

6

A. It is in conjunction with the
Ministry of Corrections.

7

8

Q. And then from September 1974
until February 1980 you worked as a nurse on the
9 children's ward of the Princess Margaret Hospital in
Toronto?

10

A. That is right.

11

12

Q. And then to the Hospital for
Sick Children as a night supervisor as you have told
13 us?

14

A. Yes.

15

16

Q. You thus had if I may say so
a varied and interesting sounding professional career?

17

A. That is right.

18

19

Q. Miss Coulson, we have heard
from Mrs. Johnstone that the Cardiology Wards were
supervised by her when she was on duty and by you
when you were on duty in her absence. Does that
fairly summarize your experience as a night supervisor?

22

A. That happened most of the time,
yes.

23

24

Q. Now we prepared with

25



1

2

Mrs. Johnstone's help a couple of charts, and I take
it that you have seen, if not read in its entirety,
the Atlanta Report?

5

A. Yes, I have.

6

Q. You are aware that the authors
of that report and their consultants categorized the
deaths with which we are concerned under three headings,
A, B and C; those falling under Categories A and B
being those to which they believed some greater or
lesser degree of suspicion attached.

11

A. (Nods).

12

Q. With Mrs. Johnstone's help we
constructed two charts. One of the Category A
deaths and the second of the Category B deaths
showing the presence of night supervisors for each
of those deaths, and indicating with an asterisk who
was in charge of Wards 4A and B. And forgive us,
we filled in a number of check marks and asterisks
under your name, and I think you were here when that
evidence was given, were you not?

20

21

A. No, I wasn't here when that was
done.

22

23

24

25

Q. I wonder if you could cast an
eye over those two charts, please, and let us know
whether to the best of your recollection we have



1

2

3 correctly identified the nights when you were present
4 in the Hospital and those deaths which occurred on
5 nights when you were supervising Wards 4A and B?

6

7 Can you see them from there?

8

9 A. Yes, they go along with what
10 my record does.

11

12 Q. Thank you.

13

14 Now, Mrs. Johnstone also told us
15 something of the course of her duties on the normal
16 night shift as a supervisor. She told us that she
17 arrives at 11:00, 11:15, takes report, spends some
18 time reviewing the tour end reports, and then about
19 12:00 to 12:30, 1 o'clock, goes out on her first
20 round of the wards of her area.

21

22 Does the first part of your shift
23 follow that general pattern, or did it at that time?

24

25 A. Yes, it did.

26

27 Q. She told us when she was
28 supervising 4A and B which was almost every night
29 when she was on, she would normally start her tour
30 of wards in that area of the Hospital.

31

32 Would you similarly start your tour
33 on the 4th floor?

34

35 A. Yes, I did.

36

37 Q. Were you normally in charge of

38



1

2

the medical wards on that floor, 4C and D?

3

A. Yes.

4

5

Q. And if you were supervising those wards on a particular night is that where you would normally start your tour of the wards?

6

A. Yes, usually.

7

8

Q. And if you were also supervising 4A and B, the cardiology wards on the 4th floor, would those be among your early calls on your tour of the wards?

9

10

A. Yes. It would depend on which end I would start; 4C/D or 4A/B.

11

12

Q. All right. So that your visit to the cardiology ward if you were supervising it would be your first or second stop?

13

14

A. That is right.

15

16

Q. In your tour of the wards?

17

18

A. Yes.

19

20

Q. And then she told us of the balance of the night that she would return to the wards later on in the shift, attend to the staffing needs and so on.

21

22

A. Yes.

23

24

Q. I take it that is the course of a normal shift for you?

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A. That is right.

Q. On those days when you were
night supervisor.

A. Yes.



DM.jc
BB

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2 Q. Miss Coulson, it is clear from
3 the chart and I look particularly - I have to look
4 at both of them, 4A and 4B, that you took the brunt
5 of the initial wave of deaths in the period that
6 concerns us. There were two of the Category B deaths,
7 those are Bilodeau and Hoos, which occurred when you
8 were on duty and supervising those wards; and
9 similarly Taylor, Dawson and Turner, and Velasquez.
10 all died in that initial period when you were
11 supervising the ward and Mrs. Johnstone was not on
duty?

12 A. That's right.

13 Q. Mrs. Johnstone was on vacation
14 at the end of July as I understand it?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Prior to that period beginning
17 in July of 1980, that is to say from February to June
18 of 1980 Miss Coulson, can you give us your best
19 recollection of the number of arrests that occurred
in your area of the Hospital while you were on duty?

20 A. Maybe one or two.

21 Q. In a period of five months?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And do you recall how many of
those were on, for the first few months 5A, and how

24

25



BB.2

1

2 many were on 4A/B after April 1st, was either of
3 them on the cardiology service?

4 A. No.

5 Q. We have heard at a much earlier
6 stage of this Commission Inquiry, Miss Coulson, that
7 with respect to resuscitation efforts it has been
8 the Hospital's experience, consistent with the
9 experience in other hospitals, that there is about
10 an 11 per cent success rate on resuscitation efforts.
11 Of the couple of arrests that you think occurred on
12 your tour of duty prior to July of 1980, can you tell
13 me was either of the arrests the subject of a
14 successful resuscitation effort?

15 A. We were able to transfer the
16 children to the ICU.

17 Q. In both cases?

18 A. The ones I remember, yes.

19 Q. Let's go then to July of 1980,
20 by the end of that month you had been called, as I
21 understand it, to five arrests as the supervisor of
22 4A and B. Did you observe any pattern in those
23 arrests?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. What was that?

A. They always happened during the



BB.3

1

2 night, it seemed to be the earlier part of the night,
3 and it was always the same nursing team, it was
4 always on 4A/B.

5 Q. And were both of those things
6 apparent to you by the end of July?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Did you comment on that to
anybody?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. To whom?

11 A. To my Supervisor Mrs. Sword, to
12 Mrs. Pyykkonen who was the Co-ordinator, and to other
13 people that were in the nursing office that I would
14 give report to in the morning.

15 Q. Do you recall when you commented
to those people?

16 A. It would have been during that
17 week and in the morning.

18 THE COMMISSIONER: I am sorry, which
19 week is that?

20 THE WITNESS: The last week of the
month perhaps.

21 THE COMMISSIONER: Last week, this is
22 July?

23 THE WITNESS: This was in July I believe

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BB.4

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when they were all happening.

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MR. LAMEK: Q. Well, we had deaths on July 22nd, 27th, 28th, 31 and then on August the 1st, five deaths within a period of 10 days and it was during that period that you made the - you commented upon your observation that these deaths were occurring in the middle of the night and in the presence of the same nursing team?

9

A. Yes.

(2)

10

11

12

Q. I would take it that was later in the 10-day period rather than earlier, because the pattern was not discernible?

13

A. Once it seemed to be a pattern, yes, I did speak up to those people.

14

Q. Did those observations appear to come as news to those people?

16

A. I couldn't say.

17

Q. Did you get any response or reaction from them?

19

A. They heard what I said.

20

Q. What were you saying other than the fact that the deaths were occurring in the middle of the night and in the presence of one team?

22

A. That is what I was saying.

23

Q. That is what you were saying, and they heard that?

25



BB.5

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A. Yes.

2

3

Q. They didn't make any response
or exhibit any reaction to that?

4

A. Not that I remember.

5

6

Q. Other than reporting the deaths
and your observations as to what seemed to be a
pattern to the people you have identified, did you
have any discussion with anybody at all about the
end of July, anyone else, about these patterns that
you were seeing?

7

8

9

10

11

12

A. I mentioned it to Lynn Johnstone
when she came back from her vacation.

13

Q. What did you say to her?

14

15

16

17

A. I was glad to see her back. I
told her that there had been a lot of arrests and
the babies had died; that it was always in the same
team, and that it always happened in the early part
of the night.

18

19

Q. You say you were glad to see her
back?

20

A. Yes.

21

22

THE COMMISSIONER: Did you say the

early part of the night, is that the early part of
your night?

23

24

THE WITNESS: At midnight.

25



BB.6

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3 THE COMMISSIONER: Some of us start
a little earlier.

4

THE WITNESS: Yes.

5

6

7

A. That's correct.

8

9 Q. And is that the observation that
you made to Mrs. Johnstone when she returned from
10 vacation?

11

A. Yes.

12

13 Q. You say you were glad to see her
back. I take it that that reflects some measure of
concern on your part that these deaths were occurring
14 with a frequency with which they did occur in the
15 last 10 days?

16

A. Yes.

17

18 Q. Did you cast around for any
kind of explanation for this rash of deaths that you
19 had experienced?

20

A. I felt that something was
happening in surgery.

21

22 Q. Why did you feel something was
happening in surgery?

23

A. It's the only thing I could

24

25



BB.7

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2 think of at the time.

3

4 children who were dying in that period were post-
5 operative patients?

6

7 A. It seemed to me that they all
8 had surgery at one point or another.

9

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Q. I could go to the charts if it
would be of help to you, Miss Coulson, but I tell you
that upon my review of them, and excluding Laura
Woodcock who died while Mrs. Johnstone was on duty
but who was not a post-operative patient; Bilodeau
was not a surgical patient, neither was Taylor, and
neither was Dawson. Hoos and Turner had had surgery,
but of the five that we are talking about - and of
course Velasquez had had surgery, no more than 50 per
cent were post-operative patients. Did you make any
inquiries as to whether these children were post-
operative cases?

A. No, I don't think I did.

Q. Or as to whether if they were
post-operative cases how long it had been since their
surgery?

A. No, I didn't.

Q. Nevertheless it was your
impression that you seemed to be losing post-operative



BB.8

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patients and you wondered whether perhaps there was something involved in their surgery or post-operative course leading to their arrest?

5

A. Those were my thoughts, yes.

6

Q. Had you worked on surgical wards prior to this tour of duty dealing with 4A and B?

7

A. No, I hadn't.

8

Q. In casting around in your mind for explanations for this rash of deaths, did anything else occur to you as a possible explanation?

9

A. Not that I can remember.

10

Q. Did you consider perhaps that these deaths were occurring as they did in this fairly narrow time frame, about 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning, may be no more than sheer coincidence?

11

A. That certainly went through my mind, yes.

12

Q. Did it occur to you the fact that they all seemed to be happening in the presence of the same team suggest that perhaps that team was having a singular run of bad luck?

13

A. Yes.

14

Q. Well, other than the possibility of coincidence, bad luck to the team, and perhaps some post-surgical implications that you might not be

15

16



BB.9

1

2

aware of, nothing else occurred to you at that time
as a possible explanation for the pattern that you
had observed?

4

A. That's right.

5

6

Q. During July, do you recall
whether there was any resuscitation attempt on Wards
7 4A or 4B that were successful?

8

9

10

11

12

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25



Coulson
dr.ex. (Lamek)

1
20feb84 2

A. I don't remember.

CC

3
BMcrc

Q. All right. You don't remember
4 whether there was one or you don't remember one that
5 was?

6 A. I don't remember one that was
7 successful.

8 Q. Did that strike you as unusual?

9 A. Yes.

10 THE COMMISSIONER: I'm sorry, what
11 was that, no?

12 THE WITNESS: Yes.

13 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, all right.

14 MR. LAMEK: Q. And was that on the
15 basis of the rather limited experience that you have
16 told us about in the prior five months when in a
17 couple of arrests both had been resuscitated and got
18 into the ICU or on a broader past experience over
19 your nursing career?

20 A. I would say a broader
21 experience.

22 Q. In the light of your whole
23 experience you regarded the deaths as unusual that
24 of these five arrests none could be resuscitated,
25 is that fair?

A. Yes.



1

CC2 2 Q. All right. Did that concern
3 you?

4 A. It frustrated me.

5 Q. Because of the effort that
6 goes into a resuscitation attempt and the terrible
7 down feeling that must come when it is unsuccessful?

8 A. That's right.

9 Q. Was it any more than
frustration?

10 A. Anger.

11 Q. Anger of what?

12 A. Anger at not being able to
13 help these children, save these children.

14 Q. Now, you said that when Mrs.
15 Johnstone returned from vacation you told her about
16 the deaths, you said you were awfully glad to see
17 her back, and you told her about the coincidences
18 that you had observed and did you tell her of the
19 feeling that this was a run of bad luck for that
nursing team?

20 A. That's right.

21 Q. Did you tell her of the
22 question in your mind as to whether there might be
some post-operative involvement in these deaths?

23 A. I might have mentioned it to

24

25



1
CC3 2 her, I don't remember.

3 Q. All right. Now, as we know,
4 deaths continued during the month of August.
5 Velasquez we know you were on duty for, Monteith
6 you were not, and I need my glasses to see that far
7 chart. Velasquez seems to be the only August
death for which you were supervising the ward.

8 A. Right.

9 Q. Were you aware however that
10 there were further deaths on 4A and B during the
11 month of August?

12 A. I don't remember.

13 Q. You don't recall that?

14 A. No.

15 Q. Were you aware that albeit
16 in reduced numbers through the fall of the year and
17 into the early winter deaths continued to occur on
4A and 4B?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And did you continue to
believe that or did you continue to be aware that
20 those deaths apparently were occurring in the
21 presence of the same nursing team?

22 A. I think that was a question
23 I asked.

24

25



1
2 CC4 Q. Of whom did you ask the
3 question?
4 A. Probably Lynn.
5 Q. And what were you told?
6 A. I think some were and some
weren't.
7 Q. All right. Were you aware
8 that many of the deaths occurred again in the middle
9 of the night, although in a rather later time band,
10 more like four o'clock area of the night?
11 A. That was -- when are you
12 referring to?
13 Q. I am now looking at the fall
14 and the early winter, September, October, November
and into December.
15 A. Yes.
16 Q. All right. Did you continue
17 to believe that to the extent deaths were occurring
18 within a narrow time band in the night that it was
19 coincidence?
20 A. It was past coincidence.
21 Q. At what point did it become
22 in your mind past coincidence?
23 A. When it seemed to start to
have another run of arrests.
24
25



1
CC5 2

Q. Now, we know that January
3 was a month in which there were several arrests.

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Is that the time when you
6 began to doubt whether this could be merely co-
7 incidence?

8 A. Yes, it was in January.

9 THE COMMISSIONER: I'm sorry?

10 THE WITNESS: December, January.

11 THE COMMISSIONER: I don't think
12 that's right. It is December.

13 THE COMMISSIONER: December, January.

14 MR. LAMEK: I'm sorry, December there
15 were five arrests, that's right.

16 THE COMMISSIONER: Estrella is the
17 only death in January.

18 MR. LAMEK: Yes. December was the
19 month I believe when there were five deaths.

20 A. Yes, December.

21 Q. It was in December then you
22 began to doubt whether coincidence could explain the
23 deaths that were occurring on the ward?

24 A. Well, it would seem to be
25 starting over again.

Q. Yes. Did you continue to



1
2 CC6 believe that this was no more than a run of very
3 bad luck for that one nursing team?

4 A. I started to believe that.

5 Q. You started to believe that?

6 A. Well, when the arrests
7 started happening again.

8 Q. In December?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. You thought the bad luck was
11 back again on that team?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Let me understand what your
14 view was of it then, Miss Coulson. In December when
15 there was a crop of arrests again, you believed
16 once again that the nursing team - that was the
17 Phyllis Trayner team?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. -- was having another run
20 of terribly bad luck but you were no longer able to
21 believe that it was merely coincidence?

22 A. Once it had happened and it
23 seemed to be getting into a pattern.

24 Q. Yes.

25 A. That to me didn't seem that
it could be coincidence.



Coulson
dr.ex. (Lamek)

1

CC7 2

3 Q. Well, if it were not
4 coincidence, did you cast around in your mind for
some other possible explanation?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Did you produce any other
7 possible explanations, whether you thought them to
8 be reasonable, acceptable, probable or not, what
9 did you canvass as the possibilities that could
explain this resurgence of deaths that you could no
10 longer attribute to coincidence?

11 A. That there was something
12 wrong with the IV solutions or various aspects of
13 that kind of care. I had talked to doctors and to
14 some of the people in the nursing office and rejected
most of the ideas that I had thought of.

15 Q. Do you recall to which doctors
16 you had spoken? Can we look back, say, from December
17 31st, the end of the year, just picking that as a
date, and I don't hold you to a conversation on any
18 particular date I promise you.

19 A. Okay, because I can't tell
20 dates. I know I had spoken to Colin Costigan and
21 I had spoken to Michael Schaffer.

22 Q. What did you say to them?

23 A. That I was concerned about the

24

25



1
CC8

2 arrests and what were their theories and had been
3 assured by both of them that they were being looked
4 into.

5

Q. Were you told what was being
5 done to look into the deaths and the arrests and
6 their cause?

7

A. I don't remember.

8

Q. All right. Did you raise with
9 them the possible explanations that were occurring
10 to you? I think you suggested that one possibility
11 that occurred to you was there might be something
12 wrong with IV solutions or something of that sort.

13

A. Yes.

14

Q. And what was there response
14 to those suggestions?

15

A. That didn't seem to be the
16 reason.

17

Q. I take it it would be the
18 most enormous bad luck if indeed there were something
19 wrong with the IV solutions that they only happened
20 to be picked up and used in the presence of one
nursing team?

21

A. That's right, it would have
22 happened throughout the Hospital.

23

Q. That again would have been a

24

25



1
CC9 2 coincidence that defied credibility I take it?

3 A. That's right.

4 Q. Credulity. You say you spoke
5 to people in the nursing office as well, again, I
6 take it trying to seek an explanation for the
7 phenomenon that you were observing?

8 A. That's right.

9 Q. Did you get any comfort, any
10 help, any explanation there?

11 A. No.

12 Q. All right. Other than
13 raising, as you have told me, with Dr. Costigan and
14 others and the nursing office the concerns that you
15 had which surfaced again in December of the year, did
16 you discuss with anyone else in the Hospital your
17 concern that these deaths could no longer be explained
18 as sheer coincidence?

19 A. Lynn Johnstone.

20 Q. When was that?

21 A. It must have been in December.

22 Q. And do you recall what was
23 said in that conversation?

24 A. No, I don't.

25 Q. All right. But you do have a
recollection of raising with her your concern? --



1
CC10 2

A. Yes.

3

4

Q. -- that this was more than

coincidence?

5

6

A. I remember raising the concern but I do not remember the conversation.

7

8

9

Q. Did you at any time, Miss Coulson, prior to late March of 1981 entertain the thought that somebody might be causing the deaths by accident or otherwise?

10

11

A. That thought did enter my

mind.

12

Q. Can you tell me when?

13

A. I would have to say in the early part of March, about the second week.

14

Q. All right.

15

16

A. Because there were more

arrests happening.

17

18

Q. Yes. Did you convey that

concern to anybody?

19

A. I don't remember.

20

21

Q. You have no recollection of talking to anyone in the nursing office or to any physician about that possible explanation?

22

A. I don't remember.

23

Q. All right. Did you make any

24

25



Coulson
dr.ex. (Lamek)

1

CC11 2 effort, Miss Coulson, to keep a closer eye on what
3 was going on in the ward from and after December?

4 A. I would always make my
5 rounds there first and pop back a couple of times
6 during the night again to just be sure that every-
7 thing was stable.

8 Q. Did you entertain any con-
9 cerns about the quality of nursing care that was
10 being provided on those wards?

11 A. I had no concerns about the
12 quality of care.

13 Q. It did not occur to you that
14 that might in some way be related to the deaths?

15 A. No, I felt they were giving
16 good care.

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

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DD/EMT/ak

Q. Did the possibility occur to you that perhaps the nurses on the one team which seemed to be present on so many of these occasions was missing or failing to observe something which might have alerted them to developing problems in time to reverse them? Did that occur to you?

A. I don't think so.

Q. All right.

Was it any part of your purpose in going to the ward first and in popping back there as you have told us during the course of your shift, was it any part of your purpose to see if you could detect developing problems in time to be able to reverse them?

A. Yes.

Q. I take it that - well, you have told me that at no time prior to the end of March, the middle of March I think you said, did you entertain the thought that somebody by accident or otherwise might be causing these deaths on Wards 4A and B?

Did anybody raise that thought with you prior to the middle of March, 1981?

A. You mean asked me?

Q. If you thought that that was



DD2

1

2

a possibility?

3

A. I don't think so, no. I don't
remember.

5

THE COMMISSIONER: I am getting a
little confused. It seems to me you said after the
spate of deaths in March it did occur to you that
someone was causing the deaths. I have that note
but I am wrong, am I?

10

THE WITNESS: That some thing was
causing --

11

THE COMMISSIONER: That some thing?
Oh, I see. Some thing was causing... Yes, all right.

12

MR. LAMEK: Q. Miss Coulson, in
the period prior to late March 1981 were there any
deaths which on the basis of the information that
you had about the children which surprised you or which
you would regard as unexpected?

17

A. Would you repeat that, please?

18

Q. Were there any of the deaths
that occurred which you regarded as surprising or
unexpected when they occurred in light of what you
knew about the child?

22

A. Yes. Quite often I would have
no idea who had arrested.

23

Q. When you would hear a Code 25

25



DD3

1

2

3 called for Ward 4A and 4B you would have no idea for
whom it was being called?

4

5 A. That is right. I would have
no idea.

6

7

8

9

10 Q. Does that mean that on your
11 tour of the ward, that on your review of the tour
12 end reports, there would be no child who struck you
13 as so sick he seemed to be in imminent danger of
14 arresting?

15

16 A. That is right.

17

18 Q. All right.

19

20 Were you aware of whether staff in
21 the Hospital on wards other than 4A and B had
22 observed the pattern of arrests on those wards that
23 you have described?

24

25 A. Yes.

26

27 Q. How were you aware of that?

28

29 A. Because different nurses would
30 say was it the same team or there was an arrest
31 tonight; was it the same team that was on?

32

33 Q. Did you at some time prior to
34 March 22nd, 1981, and that was the morning upon
35 which Justin Cook died, did you at some time prior
36 to March 22, 1981 learn that a high digoxin concentra-
37 tion had been measured in a postmortem sample from

38

39



DD4

1

2 Janice Estrella?

3

4 A. Before the 22nd?

5

Q. Yes.

6

A. I don't think so. I can't
remember that.

7

Q. Do you recall when you first
8 did learn of that?

9

A. No, I don't recall when I heard.

10

Q. It was after the death of
10 Justin Cook I take it from what you said?

11

A. Yes.

12

Q. Did you at some time prior to
13 March 22nd learn that high digoxin concentrations
14 had been measured in both antemortem and postmortem
15 samples drawn from Kevin Pacsai?

16

A. Yes.

17

Q. When did you learn that?

18

A. Just after Allana Miller had
arrested or after she had died.

19

Q. On the morning of Friday the
20 21st?

21

A. Yes.

22

Q. Sorry, Saturday the 21st.

23

A. Saturday.

24

Q. Yes. Can you tell me how you

25



DD5

1

2

acquired that information?

3

A. Susan Nelles had - was telling
4 Lynn Johnstone and I and I think Phyllis Turner -
5 Phyllis Trayner was there - and she was annoyed that
6 Liz Radojewski had called her at home in Belleville
7 to tell her that Pacsai had had a high digoxin level
8 and that she had been the last person to sign for
9 the digoxin dose, and that there was a potential
inquest.

10

Q. Was that the extent of what
11 Miss Nelles said on that occasion?

12

A. That is what I remember.

13

Q. All right. What was your
14 reaction to the news that Pacsai had had a high
15 digoxin level?

16

A. I was concerned.

17

Q. You have told us, and I think
18 you confirmed to the Commissioner a few minutes ago
19 that from about the middle of March you were concerned
20 that some thing was causing the deaths of these
children.

21

Against that background did you attach
22 any particular significance to a high digoxin level
23 in Kevin Pacsai?

24

A. Not at that time.

25



DD6

1

2

3

4

Q. It did not occur to you at that time that high digoxin levels might be the same thing that was involved in these deaths?

5

6

A. I don't think I thought of it at that time.

7

8

Q. All right. Did you learn what the concentrations were in Pacsai's samples at that time?

9

A. Not at that time, no.

10

Q. Did you make any : enquiry?

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

MR. PERCIVAL: Mr. Commissioner, there is some consideration back here. We had heard the same way you had heard, someone, and I am not sure whether it was a mistake on the part of the witness but I am satisfied at least from the consensus back here that she indicated someone, in the first two weeks of March, and we took it down the same way you did, sir.

18

Perhaps we can get that clarified.

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

MR. LAMEK: Q. Maybe we can go

back. I think the question that I had asked you, Miss Coulson, was whether it had occurred to you prior to the end of March or the latter part of March of 1981 that someone, and I think that was the word I used --



DD7

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2

A. Yes.

3

4

5

6

7

Q. -- someone whether accidentally or in any other way was perhaps causing the deaths of these children on Wards 4A and B. I confess I thought you had said yes to that question as from about the middle of March.

8

9

Maybe I should ask the question all over again and we can answer it all over again.

10

A. Yes.

11

12

13

Q. Had that thought occurred to you that someone, in some way or another, might be causing those deaths, occurred to you at any time before the latter part of March?

14

15

A. I would have to say that something was happening. I couldn't say that some one.

16

17

Q. Okay. It occurred to you that some thing was happening down there; you didn't know what?

18

19

A. That is right.

20

21

Q. You couldn't identify what?

A. That is right. I couldn't

22

23

put my finger on it.

24

26

Q. And that thought came to you about the middle of March after the number of arrests at the beginning of March?

25



DD8

1

2

A. Yes.

3

Q. When you say some thing, can
you give me any suggestion of a thing that can take
effect without some human assistance?

4

A. No.

5

Q. I want to be clear but I do want
to be fair.

6

A. Yes.

7

Q. Do I put it fairly, Miss Coulson,
if I say that as far as you cared or dared to carry
your thinking at that time, it was some thing?

8

A. Yes.

9

Q. But if really pressed you would
have to say that means probably some one.

10

A. It looks that way, yes.

11

Q. But when you learned of the

12

Pacsai elevated digoxin concentrations following the
death of Allana Miller on the morning of March 21st,
it did not occur to you that that might be the some
thing and perhaps the some one that may have caused
other deaths?

13

A. The fact may have crossed my
mind, but I don't remember. --

14

Q. Okay.

15

A. -- spending time with it.

16



DD9

1

2

3

4

Q. I think I asked you whether you learned of the particular concentrations that had been recorded at that time?

5

A. Not at that time.

6

7

Q. You said no, and I ask you if you made any enquiry?

8

A. Yes, but nobody knew what it was.

9

Q. Of whom did you enquire?

10

11

A. The nurses that were telling - telling me.

12

13

Q. You didn't address any enquiry to anyone in the nursing office or to any physician?

14

A. That is right.

15

16

17

Q. Did you discuss your concerns over that basic information about the Pacsai levels, about the Pacsai concentration with anybody, Mrs. Johnstone, for example?

18

A. At that time?

19

Q. At that time.

20

A. No.

21

Q. Or with anybody else?

22

A. No.

23

Q. Let's go then to the night of March 21-22, the night that Justin Cook died. You

24

25



DD10

1

were on duty?

2

A. Yes.

3

Q. And you came on duty at 11:00,
11:15 in the normal way?

4

A. That is right.

5

Q. Were you present at report for
Mrs. Ross that night?

6

A. She called Mrs. Johnstone into
the other room.

7

Q. All right. And they had a
private conversation?

8

A. They had a private conversation.

9

Q. Did you ever learn what was said
in the course of that conversation?

10

A. Yes.

11

Q. When?

12

A. Later on before we made rounds,
Mrs. Johnstone told me what Mrs. Ross had said and
showed me a memo.

13

Q. All right. Not so much for
the truth of it but for the purpose of establishing
what information you had at that time, what did
Mrs. Johnstone tell you?

14

A. She told me that - well, we
knew that the digoxin had been locked up.

15

16



1

2

Q. Yes.

3

4

A. And that the memo had said that
there were - there had been a meeting with Dr. Carver
and I can't remember who else.

5

6

Q. Would it assist you to see
the memorandum?

7

8

A. Yes, it would.

9

Q. Let me see if I can find it
for you.

10

MS. THOMSON: 357.

11

12

MR. LAMEK: . . . I wonder if we could
have that, Mr. Registrar, please? Exhibit 357.

13

14

15

Q. Our No. 357 is two memoranda.
First a memorandum from Mrs. Ross to Miss Geiger
reporting on the direction as to digitalis prepara-
tions.

16

17

18

Is that the memorandum to which you
refer or is it the first one in the exhibit which is
a memorandum from Lynn Johnstone to Mary Sword? *

19

20

A. I did not see this one. I saw-
the second.

21

Q. You didn't see the first one?

22

A. No.

23

Q. So the memorandum you are
referring to is the one that records the order about

24

25



1

2

the locking up of digoxin?

3

A. That is right.

4

Q. Whatever information was
given to you by Mrs. Johnstone that she had derived,
she said, from Mrs. Ross.

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

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A. That there had been a problem
with the digoxin, that the pharmacy was going to
reissue it the next morning and that Dr. Mounstephen
and Costigan had gone around and taken all the
ampules of digoxin from the cart.

Q. All right.

A. And from the medication cup-
boards, and it seemed hush hush.

Q. Did she tell you in particular
that night that several babies that have arrested
have apparently had high digoxin levels?

A. I don't remember.

Q. You don't recall?

A. No.

Q. Do you recall getting that
information from Mrs. Johnstone at any time?

A. No, I don't remember.

Q. You were told about the locking
up of the digoxin and the taking of the inventory
by Costigan and Mounstephen and so on?



1

2

A. Yes.

3

4

Q. What was your reaction to that
information?

5

A. Something is going on.

6

7

Q. Okay. Did you take your thinking
any further than that?

8

A. Well, I knew Pacsai had a
high dig. level.

9

Q. Yes.

10

11

12

A. And their locking up the dig.,
and maybe that could be an explanation for what has
been happening.

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

Q. Is it fair to say then that

although you had not considered digoxin and high
levels as an explanation merely upon learning of the
Pacsai elevated concentration, when that was put
together with the news that digoxin had been locked
up it did then occur to you that digoxin might be
the thread that ran through these deaths?

A. Yes.

Q. All right.

Now that having occurred to you as
the some thing, did that not bring you face to face
with the some one possibility because digoxin doesn't
find its way on its own into babies; is that fair?



1

2

A. That's fair.

3

4

Q. Okay. Did that occur to you
that evening when you came on duty and received that
news?

5

6

A. No. I was more concerned
with the actual digoxin or maybe the actual digoxin
concentration or the fact that maybe there had been
an overdose, an accidental overdose --

7

8

Q. Yes.

9

10

A. Or drug error.

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25



DM.jc
EE

1

2

Q. Did it occur to you perhaps
that there had been a series of accidental drug over-
doses or drug errors that might account for a number
of the deaths that you had seen?

3

A. Did I -- ?

4

Q. Did that possibility occur to
you that night?

5

A. I think so, yes.

6

Q. Did you discuss the matter with
Mrs. Johnstone that night?

7

A. We talked about it but not for
any great length, we had to go on our rounds.

8

Q. Did you share with Mrs. Johnstone
the concern that you now had that digoxin might indeed
be involved in the deaths that you had been seeing
on that ward?

9

A. I don't remember.

10

Q. Do you recall whether she
expressed such a thought to you?

11

A. I don't remember.

12

Q. Now, when you did your rounds in
your area of the Hospital that night did you find any
ward where the digoxin was not locked up by the time
you got there?

13

A. The digoxin was locked up on all

14

15



EE.2

1

2 the medical floors.

3

4 Q. Locked up in all of them by the

time you arrived?

5

A. Yes.

6

7 Q. You were not supervising 4A/B
that night?

8

A. No.

9

10 Q. Did you go up to 4A/B at all
during that shift?

11

A. Yes.

12

Q. How did that come about?

13

A. Mrs. Johnstone called me about
4 o'clock in the morning, I was on Psychiatry.

14

Q. What floor is that?

15

A. 5E.

16

Q. 5E, right.

17

A. I received a call from
Mrs. Johnstone asking me to come down to 4A. I asked
her if it was that sick baby that - had anybody
arrested, and she said no. I said, is it that sick
baby, and she said yes, I need you down here.

20

Q. By that sick baby, whom did you
mean?

22

A. Justin Cook.

23

Q. Had you and Mrs. Johnstone

24

25



EE.3

1

2

discussed earlier in the evening the children on 4A?

3

A. Yes, we had.

4

5

Q. And therefore when you said is it that sick baby she knew who you meant?

6

A. Yes.

7

Q. That you say was about 4 o'clock in the morning?

8

A. Yes.

9

Q. Did you then go to Ward 4A?

10

A. Yes.

11

12

Q. What did you find when you got there?

13

14

15

16

17

18

A. Mrs. Johnstone was at the desk and had just put a call in for - she had put an urgent call in for the anaesthetist, and together we went into 418 and the crash cart was in there, it had not been opened or disturbed at all. Dr. Jedeikin was there and Susan Nelles and Phyllis Trayner were there, and the baby was in a stork bed.

19

Q. I am sorry, in a --

20

A. A stork bed, a small bed.

21

Q. That is a small crib?

22

A. Yes.

23

Q. Do you recall whether there was anyone else in the room, and in particular did anyone

24

25



EE.4

1

2 else appear to be caring for any of the other
3 children in the room?

4 A. I don't remember.

5 Q. And what then happened?

6 A. The anaesthetist came and he
7 asked me for the endotracheal tube, I gave him the
8 endotracheal tube, and the child arrested when he
9 intubated the baby and a 25 call then was put in , and
the CPR at that point had commenced.

10 Q. And who was doing the CPR?

11 A. Susan was doing the - Susan was.

12 Q. Susan Nelles?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And did the arrest team arrive?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And the resuscitation effort
took its course?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Do you recall anything unusual,
or anything that now causes you any question or
concern about the cause of that resuscitation?

19 A. I had left and come back. I
20 had to go and do some other things, and I came back
21 and arrangements had been made for the child to go
22 to ICU.

23

24

25



EE.5

1

2 Q. Was that before the arrest?

3

A. Before the arrest, yes. Phyllis
4 Trayner kept saying let's get the baby down to ICU.

5

Q. When was she saying that?

6

A. During the arrest.

7

Q. During the resuscitation effort?

8

A. Yes.

(2)

9

Q. Is it usual to move a child to
the ICU during a resuscitation effort?

10

A. Not usually, sometimes on other
11 floors we have bagged a baby or a child to take them
12 down, but not at this point.

13

Q. Did that strike you as unusual
in any way?

14

A. Well, it did seem unusual, yes.

15

Q. That the suggestion would be
16 made to move the child at that time?

17

A. Yes.

18

Q. Was there anything else that
19 struck you as unusual, or that you now question?

20

A. No, I don't think so, no.

21

Q. Now Mrs. Johnstone has told us
22 that she left the resuscitation effort before the
child was pronounced dead.

23

A. Yes.

24

25



EE.6

1

2

Q. She had staffing requirements to
do?

4

A. Yes.

5

Q. Did you stay until the
resuscitation effort was over?

6

A. When I returned to the floor I
stayed and Mrs. Johnstone went back to the office.

8

Q. And did you subsequently advise
her that the child had died?

10

A. Yes, I telephoned her.

11

Q. Were you aware Miss Coulson that
blood was drawn from Justin Cook after he had been
pronounced dead.

13

Q. No.

14

Q. After he had been pronounced dead,
which was at 4:56 in the morning, did you at any time
during the balance of the shift have any conversation
or discussion with any member of the Trayner team?

18

A. Yes, I did.

19

Q. How did that come about?

20

A. I had left 4A to go down to
pick up another tray for the arrest cart, and I came
back up and I went into 418 and Susan Nelles was
bathing Justin Cook, and Mrs. Christie was in the
room at the time and we had a conversation. Do you

24

25



EE. 7

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2 want me to tell you what it was?

3

Q. Yes, please.

4

THE COMMISSIONER: I am not sure who
5 it is you had the conversation with?

6

THE WITNESS: Susan Nelles, and
7 Mrs. Christie was in the background.

8

MR. LAMEK: Q. Did she participate in
the conversation?

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A. Other than handing us something
for the baby to put on that was nicer than the one
we were going to put on. Susan was - she told me
that the baby had come from a small town outside of
Owen Sound and seemed frustrated that the child - it
had taken so long to get the child down to Sick
Children's. The baby had had a heart murmur that
had been picked up - it had not been picked up in
Owen Sound until he was over two months of age and
she was quite concerned about that and said this
always happened.

19

20

21

Q. Did she appear to be angry
about that, frustrated that the child had not been
sent to the Hospital at an earlier stage?

22

23

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25

A. She seemed frustrated.

Q. Do you recall anything else in
the course of the conversation?



EE.8

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A. She asked me where I had been that night and I told her I had been on the fifth floor.

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Q. What do you mean "where you had been that night", she was asking you to give a whole story of the evening, was she?

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A. No. It was just a matter of where was I this time when there had been an arrest, I could be anywhere from the 9th floor, the 8th floor, wherever, and I would come to answer the Code.

Q. You had been on duty the night before the Miller arrest, had you not?

A. That's right.

Q. Where had you been when that arrest was called?

A. On the ninth floor.

Q. And Miss Nelles asked you where you were on this occasion when the arrest was called?

A. That's right.

Q. And you had been on the fifth floor I take it? • •

A. That's right.

Q. Indeed you had been called before the arrest occurred?

A. Yes, and I had told her that.



EE.9

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Q. Anything else in the course of
that conversation?

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A. I said to her, I will make the
bed; she had finished bathing the baby and was holding
Justin and she said, "Here, you hold him", and I
said, "No, you hold him and I will make the bed",
and we laughed because it was a bigger bed and I was
taller than Susan.

9

10

Q. You were not putting him back
into the stork bed?

11

12

13

14

15

A. No, we had a large crib at
this point and the parents were coming in. That is
when Mrs. Christie gave us a comforter and a nicer
gown for him. Then I left the room to go out to see
how Phyllis and Bertha were doing, they were out at
the desk.

16

17

18

19

Q. Just before we get to Nurse
Trayner and Nurse Bell; how did Miss Nelles appear to
you, did she appear to be concerned, upset, distressed
about the death, what?

20

A. Concerned.

21

Q. Did she appear distressed at all?

22

A. She had been frustrated as I
said.

23

Q. Yes.

24

25



EE.10

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A. She was not crying, but she was concerned.

4

5

6

Q. Did she mention to you in the course of your conversation with her that blood had been drawn from Justin Cook after he had been pronounced dead?

7

A. No.

8

Q. Maybe we can follow you out to your conversation with Nurses Trayner and Bell after the break, Mr. Commissioner?

11

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THE COMMISSIONER: Yes. All right. I was going to mention a matter of great importance, somebody else may not think so. I have been having terrible trouble with the elevators here because I think this building works on the half hour. I was wondering if we might change our whole lives by breaking at quarter to one and coming back at quarter past two and we will adjust the breaks accordingly. I know this is a momentous decision you have to make, so I will ask you, if nobody has an objection to that we will put it into effect tomorrow, if anybody has any objection we will put it to a vote.

MR. TOBIAS: Perhaps we should have written argument, Mr. Commissioner?

THE COMMISSIONER: Maybe we should.



EE.11

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2 MR. LAMEK: A stated case perhaps.

3

4 THE COMMISSIONER: I don't know if

5

anybody else has had the same trouble I have had with
6 the elevators. I know at quarter to one when we did
7 it I think it was Thursday the elevator came right
away and whisked me right down. So think about it
and we will decide in 20 minutes.

8

9

--- Short recess.

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--- on resuming.

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BMcrc

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THE COMMISSIONER: First of all, has anyone any objection to the proposed change of hours?

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6

MR. PERCIVAL: I think we have all agreed to waive our rights to appeal.

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THE COMMISSIONER: Good, and I will not state a case. However, it won't make any difference in the morning, starting in the morning, except that we will have our break at or close to 11:15 and we will rise at a quarter to one and come back at a quarter past two, have a break then at 3:15 and carry on to the end of the day as before.

If it doesn't work, it doesn't work.

If the elevators -- try not to tell anybody else in this building because they will no doubt change the hours of lunch for all the employees.

All right now, Mr. Lamek.

MR. LAMEK: Thank you, sir.

Q. Miss Coulson, you have just told us of the conversation that you had with Miss Nelles in Room 418 when she was bathing Cook after his death. Then you said you went out to the nursing station.

A. Yes.



1
2 FF2 Q. Can you tell me whom you
3 encountered there and what was said?

4 A. I went to the back of the
5 nurses' station and Phyllis Trayner and Bertha Bell
6 were sitting there having a coffee and I asked them
7 if there was anything that they needed or wanted,
8 were they okay, and they were fine. I went back
9 in to say goodbye to Susan and that's when she told
10 me that Dr. Jedeikin had come up to her and said
11 I just want you to know the baby had excellent care,
12 and I said to her that's very nice to hear and she
13 said yes.

14 Q. Okay. You have just told us
15 the extent of the conversation you had with Nurses
16 Trayner and Bell at the back of the nursing station --

17 THE COMMISSIONER: Just a minute, I
18 must have missed something. This was on the morning
19 of the 22nd, is that it?

20 THE WITNESS: The Sunday morning.

21 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes.

22 MR. LAMEK: Some time between five
23 o'clock when the baby was pronounced dead and seven
24 o'clock when the shift ended.

25 Q. But I would take it closer
26 to five than to seven?



1
FF3

2 A. Oh, it was just after five,
3 yes.

4 Q. Yes. So, I take it what Miss
5 Nelles is doing is preparing the baby's body to take
6 down to see the parents and go to the morgue?

7 A. Yes, the parents were coming
8 in.

9 Q. Yes. And what was your
10 impression, please, of Nurses Trayner and Bell? Did
11 they appear to be upset, stressed and concerned about
this death?

12 A. They were upset. They had had
13 a cigarette and coffee and were --

14 Q. Relatively calm?

15 A. Relatively calm, yes.

16 Q. All right. Now you went off
17 duty that morning, seven, seven-thirty?

18 A. About seven-thirty, a quarter
19 to eight.

20 Q. And the balance of the shift,
21 did anything else occur that in any way related to
22 the Cook death and the incidents of that night?

23 A. Not that I remember.

24 Q. Did you have any conversation
25 with Mrs. Johnstone following the Cook death in the



Coulson
dr.ex. (Lamek)

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FF4

2 course of the balance of that shift?

3

A. No. I had another emergency
4 to deal with and I didn't see Lynn.

5

Q. Now, were you on duty Sunday
6 night, the night of the 22nd to the 23rd?

7

A. Yes, I was.

8

Q. Were you also on duty on the
Monday night, the 23rd/24th?

9

A. Yes, I was.

10

Q. Were you supervising Wards 4A
11 and B on those two nights?

12

A. No.

13

Q. Who was?

14

A. To the best of my recol-
lection Miss Sword was responsible for the general
15 supervision of the floor.

16

Q. When you came on duty on
17 Sunday night, I take it you became aware that the
18 Trayner team was not working that night, although
19 it had been scheduled to do so?

20

A. That's right.

21

Q. Did you ask why or were you
told why?

22

A. The reason was given that
they had been under a lot of stress.

23

24

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2 Q. Is that an explanation that
3 satisfied you?

4

A. No.

5

6 Q. Did you have your own thoughts
as to the reason for them not being there?

7

8 A. Not that I really -- not that
I remember.

9

10 Q. Well, why were you dis-
11 satisfied with the explanation that was given to you?

12

13 A. Well, the stress, there was
14 stress on the other team as well. To me, if I had
15 been told not to come in to work that would have
16 caused more stress for me.

17

18 Q. All right. Did you in your
19 own mind link the absence of the Trayner team that
20 night with the thoughts that you had had on the
21 Saturday night about the possible digoxin involvement
22 in the deaths?

23

A. To the Trayner team?

24

Q. Yes.

25

A. No.

26

Q. You did not?

27

A. No.

28

29 Q. You were aware that super-
30 visors were on the wards?

31

32



Coulson
dr.ex. (Lamek)

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FF6 2 A. Yes. There were relief
3 nurses there.

4 Q. And that they were overseeing
5 drug administrations?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Did you ask why that was or
8 were you told why that was happening?

9 A. We were told that it was to
10 double-check to make sure that everything was given
accordingly.

11 Q. Did that cause you any
12 concern as to whether things might not have been
13 given properly and accordingly on previous occasions?

14 A. It did raise some concern,
yes.

15 Q. Did you express those con-
cerns to anybody on the Sunday night?

16 A. No.

17 Q. Or on that shift that started
18 on the Sunday night?

19 A. No.

20 Q. Did you become aware on the
21 Sunday night that police officers had been in the
22 Hospital?

23 A. Not on Sunday night.

24

25



1
2 FF7 Q. Did you learn that on Monday
3 night?

4 A. I knew either early Monday
5 morning around eight o'clock or seven-thirty, it
6 was either Monday morning or Tuesday morning, I can't
7 be certain.

8 Q. Either Monday morning when
9 you went off shift but not Tuesday night when you
came on shift?

10 A. I knew either Monday morning
11 when I went off or Tuesday morning when I went off.

12 Q. Okay, but not Monday night
13 when you came on?

14 A. No.

15 Q. All right. You are sure that
16 that is not when you learned of it?

17 A. No, I learned about it in the
morning.

18 Q. All right. And did you
19 understand that the police officers were in the
20 Hospital investigating deaths?

21 A. I heard Homicide had been
called in, yes.

22 Q. From whom did you learn that?

23 A. From Muriel Richardson.

24

25



Coulson
dr.ex. (Lamek)

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2 FF8 Q. Who was Muriel Richardson?

3 A. She was one of the coordinators.

4 Q. The Area Coordinators?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. All right. Did that informa-
tion cause you concern?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Did that give rise to any
9 suspicion that indeed digoxin may have been involved
10 in the deaths, together with all the other informa-
11 tion that you acquired over the past 48 hours?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. And did you at that time begin
14 to entertain the thought that perhaps some one might
15 now be involved in the administration of digoxin
causing death?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Is that the first time that
18 that thought had occurred to you?

19 A. It occurred to me on Tuesday
20 night. .

21 Q. By that time you knew of the
22 high Pacsai level, you learned that on the Friday
23 morning -- I'm sorry, the Saturday morning?

24 A. The Saturday morning.

25



Coulson
dr.ex. (Lamek)

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Q. You knew of the locking-up

of digoxin, you knew that on Saturday evening. You knew that the Trayner team had not come on for scheduled shift on Sunday, you knew that supervisors were on the wards overseeing the administration of drugs and you knew that Homicide officers were in the Hospital and at that point you began to entertain the thought that perhaps somebody had been administering digoxin to these infants.

10

A. Yes.

11

Q. When you entertained that

12

thought, did you focus solely upon the most recent of the deaths, Cook, or did you extend your thoughts backward over the period of time back even to the summer?

15

A. I looked at it collectively.

16

Q. Over the whole period?

17

A. Yes.

18

Q. Did it occur to you at that time that that was a possible explanation for the whole sequence of increased mortality rate?

19

A. Yes.

21

Q. Back from July?

22

A. Yes.

23

Q. Now, prior to Tuesday evening

24

25



Coulson
dr.ex. (Lamek)

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FF10 2 when you came on duty did you discuss any of these
3 matters or any concerns that you had with anybody
4 at or from the Hospital?

5 A. No.

6 Q. And we know on Tuesday
7 evening when you came on duty that Mrs. Johnstone
8 was returning from two days off.

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Did you discuss the situation
11 that had by now developed and the concerns that you
12 had by now developed with her?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. When and where did that
15 conversation take place?

16 A. It took place on the Tuesday,
17 Tuesday night, it would be a quarter to one, around
18 that time, and it was in the hall outside of
19 Nursing Education.

20 Q. Is that on the fourth floor?

21 A. The fourth floor just before
22 you go through the doors to 4C/D.

23 Q. Yes.

24 A. And Mrs. Johnstone and I were
25 standing there talking and I said to her that
Homicide had been called in and I said does this mean



1
2 FF11 murder and we were both shaking and I said that looks
3 as if it points to one of two people.

4 Q. Do you recall what Mrs.
5 Johnstone said?

6 A. She said one person and I
7 said another.

8 Q. All right. What was your
9 basis -- did you have any basis for naming the person
10 that you did identify?

11 A. The other person had not been
12 there for a couple of deaths that I knew about.

13 Q. All right. Well, let me ask
14 you the blunt question and you might take your time
15 about answering this one because someone may have
16 something to say about it. Can you tell me please
17 who were the people that you and Mrs. Johnstone
18 respectively identified as the person that each of
19 you thought might be involved in those deaths?

20 MS. FORSTER: Mr. Commissioner.

21 THE COMMISSIONER: Oh, sorry, yes.

22 MS. FORSTER: I think we are back to
23 the same old issue. This witness hasn't really
24 established any basis for saying that she suspected
25 anyone other than presence or absence.

26 THE COMMISSIONER: Well, I know, and



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FF12

2 I understand that, but this is where I get trapped
3 every time because, well, for the first issue it
4 is no help at all; on the second issue, naming
5 the police which we are now doing, if as certainly
6 it would appear that there were suspicions of more
7 than one person then the police will take the
8 position that they should have been told, at least
9 I assume that is the position they will take, and
10 that's why the last time we went through this I had
11 to reverse myself.

12 MS. FORSTER: Sir, I understand the
13 concern and the relevance to Phase II, but as I
14 indicated last time, I think that probably can be
15 gotten around if the witness states whether or not
16 she ever told or relayed the conversation to the
17 police, and either she did or she didn't.

18 My concern is, if we have evidence
19 on what everybody has said as to who they suspected
20 or who they didn't, the prejudicial effect is
21 incredible, whereas, in Phase II aren't we really
22 concerned with what they knew or what they didn't
23 know and whether a person conveyed it to the
24 police?

25 With respect, I don't see how the
26 relevance of who they actually suspected and the basis



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2 for it really even assists in Phase II, it is more
3 whether or not a basis has been made.

4

5 THE COMMISSIONER: Well, there seems
6 to have been a basis for it, she did indicate that
7 her opinion was based upon the presence of the one
8 person at I guess some of these deaths.

9

10 Please don't tell me, don't mention
11 any names, but did you not say your opinion was
12 based upon the fact that the person for whom you
13 did not suspect had not been present, isn't that what
14 I understood you to say?

15

16 THE WITNESS: The person that I
17 suspected was one and Lynn Johnstone suspected
18 another and my counterreaction was, she wasn't
19 there for, and I said a child's name.

20

21 THE COMMISSIONER: There is a basis
22 for it, there is a basis for it. I don't know,
23 Mr. Lamek, I don't know whether you would be satis-
24 fied if you merely mentioned -- well, I take it,
25 Mr. Percival, you have some views on it.

20

21 MR. PERCIVAL: Mr. Commissioner,
22 contrary to my position last week, I think with this
23 particular witness on the basis of the examination in
24 chief heretofore the precise basis for her comments
25 has now been laid and I think with Mrs. Johnstone



FF14

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the difficulty was that we didn't have that sort of buildup, if I may say, in relation to the evidence. So, there is certainly adequate consideration given by the witness long before she has said that she uttered this, and I say in this particular case it should be given.

7

THE COMMISSIONER: That's my problem, Miss Forster.

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Yes, Miss McIntyre?

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MS. MCINTYRE: Mr. Commissioner,

it seems to me from listening to the evidence that while a basis may be established for who this witness says she thought it wasn't, there has been no basis established for who she thought it was.

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THE COMMISSIONER: Well, that well may be, but there is some basis for it. But it is really not the first issue that is concerning me; it is the second issue. It is the second issue; that is the police investigation that we are now taking because these witnesses are now here for the first and last time.

13

Yes, Mr. Hunt? What did you wish?

14

15

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MR. HUNT: Mr. Commissioner, as this matter comes up every time my friends focus on the prejudicial aspect even in the face of it being put to them that this relates to the second aspect, the police investigation.

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Susan Nelles was charged by the police. She was prosecuted by the Crown and you are going to investigate their conduct entirely.

If somebody suspected one or both of those people before charges were laid, then that is relevant to the Crown and to the police, and to dance around suggesting that there are ways that we can get



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3 around this, that may be fine from my friends' point
4 of view, but certainly not from mine or my friend
5 Mr. Percival's point of view.

6

7 And whether or not there is a basis
8 in my submission if this witness had that conversation
9 the night before charges were laid, then it is
10 important from the point of view of my clients and
11 I understand Mr. Percival's position, from the point
12 of view of his, that it come out.

13

THE COMMISSIONER: Yes.

14

15 MR. BROWN: Mr. Commissioner, if I
16 might respond to Mr. Hunt's comments, his argument
17 for relevancy on that basis troubles me because he
18 assumes that a person's state of mind prior to laying
19 of the charges is relevant to the conduct of the
20 police.

21

22 Now if the police had gone in, had made
23 it known generally that they were conducting an
24 investigation and made it known that they were
25 soliciting from people their --

26

27 THE COMMISSIONER: No, but that's

28 argument.

29

30 MR. BROWN: Well, no, I think, sir,
31 with respect it goes beyond argument because if the
32 police make no effort prior to laying the charges to
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solicit from people their understanding of events, I fail to see how it is relevant that a person had a state of knowledge before the charges were laid.

There was no effort to solicit that. How does it then become relevant to the police to say, oh, well, she should have told us when they made no effort to tell people, "Come to us and tell us".

THE COMMISSIONER: I say that is argument.

You can only say that the police should have gone out and should have sought this information. They should have asked everybody is there any reason why we should not, let us say, charge your client or whatever it is.

Perhaps they should do that, and you can put that in argument, I don't know, but the problem here is that there was a conversation that took place on the Tuesday night between two supervisors who were familiar with the circumstances in which they expressed apparently views on different people, and the police make or try to make whatever they can out of that, the fact - if it was, and in fact this information was not passed on to the police. Maybe it was passed on to the police --

MR. BROWN: Well, as I say, sir, I



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have trouble with the argument of relevancy.

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THE COMMISSIONER: Yes.

4

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MR. BROWN: Because if the police
didn't make it known that they wanted information
I fail to see how information at a particular date
is relevant to their investigation.

6

7

THE COMMISSIONER: Yes. All right.

8

9

MR. BROWN: Thank you.

10

11

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THE COMMISSIONER: And you asked
the question, Mr. Lamek - everybody expressed a view
as to whether it is proper or not. Do you want to
say anything?

13

14

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16

MR. LAMEK: Mr. Commissioner, I hope
the fact that I asked it suggests that I think it
to be a proper question. Perhaps I can just ask
one other by way of further foundation for this thing.

17

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Q. Miss Coulson, you have told us
that some time on the Tuesday, perhaps you had heard
on Tuesday morning which you say the police, the
homicide officers were in - some time on the Tuesday
with all of the information that had come to you over
the course of the preceding 48 or 72 hours, the
possibility had to be faced by you that there may
have been foul play on that ward.

Do I have it fairly so far?



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A. Yes.

3

Q. And you have told us that once that possibility came to you you cast your mind back over the whole of what we call the epidemic period right back to the summer of 1980 to consider whether indeed foul play might be the explanation for the number of deaths that you had seen occur. Do I have that correctly?

4

A. Looking at it collectively.

5

Q. Yes. You looked back over the sweep of the preceding nine months did you not?

6

A. Yes.

7

Q. And I take it in doing that part of your purpose was to see if you could identify any common link or common thread running through the deaths of which you were aware. Is that what you were trying to do?

8

A. Yes.

9

Q. And did you find a link that appeared to you to be a constant in those deaths?

10

A. Yes.

11

Q. And was that the person whom you identified as the person whom you thought might be involved?

12

A. Yes.

13



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3 Q. Whom did you think might be
4 involved? Whom did you say to Mrs. Johnstone you
5 thought might be involved on that basis?

6

7 A. Can I answer it now? Phyllis
8 Trayner.

9

10 Q. Did Mrs. Johnstone agree with
11 you?

12

A. No, she said Susan Nelles.

13

14 Q. And your response to her
15 suggestion was what?

16

17 A. Susan wasn't there when
18 Lombardo died.

19

20 Q. Do I have this correctly then
21 that reaching back across the nine months and
22 looking at the deaths recalling them in your mind,
23 in your mind you had rejected Susan Nelles as the
24 common thread because on at least one occasion, the
25 death of the Lombardo child, she had not been
present?

19

A. Yes. It stood out in my mind.

20

21 Q. All right. How on the
22 evening of March 24th, how did you know or how could
23 you recall that Miss Nelles had not been present
24 on the occasion of Lombardo's death?

25

A. On the Tuesday night?



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3 Q. Yes. How could you remember
4 that?

5 A. Because I think it was the
6 night after Lombardo died I met Susan's brother who
7 was a physician at the Hospital - he was a resident -
8 I met him going down the stairs one night and we
9 stopped and talked. And he said Susan was on
10 vacation and I said, yes. I said there was an
11 arrest last night and we missed her. I said she
12 usually does the CPR and she does it very well.
13 And he said yes, she has talked to me about that,
14 and that is how come I remembered she wasn't there.

15 Q. Well, was that the extent of
16 the conversation that you had with Mrs. Johnstone on
17 the Tuesday evening?

18 A. We both were visibly shaken and
19 felt that this was very, very - it was terrible and
20 we didn't want to talk about it any more.

21 Q. Did you have further conversa-
22 tion with Mrs. Johnstone during the course of that
23 shift on the subject?

24 A. No.

25 Q. Did you ever state to anyone
other than to Mrs. Johnstone your belief that Susan
Nelles was not involved in these deaths for the



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reason that you have given?

3

A. At that time?

4

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Q. At that time or at any time
until now or in preparation for giving your evidence
here.

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A. When I gave a statement to the
police I told them that I found it difficult to
believe that Susan could have done it and that she
hadn't been there for some of the deaths.

8

9

Q. Do you recall the occasion upon
which you said that to the police?

10

11

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14

A. When I talked to - it was after
Susan's arrest I had an interview with one of the
policemen.

15

16

Q. Well perhaps Mr. Percivall will
be interested in pursuing that.

17

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Your recollection is clear,
Miss Coulson, is it, that you did tell the police
that it was your belief that Miss Nelles was not
the person responsible for the deaths and you
explained to them your reason for so believing?

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A. I told them I had trouble
believing that Susan did it and that she hadn't
been there for a lot of - no, not a lot, that she
hadn't been there for some of the deaths.



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Q. What was the response of the
police officers when you said that?

3

A. We are here to talk about Cook.

4

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Q. Is this the occasion of your
first interview with the police?

6

A. Yes.

7

Q. Which I think was late in
April, was it not? Perhaps you can tell me?

8

A. The 3rd of April.

9

Q. Early in April. Sorry. Thank
you.

10

You relayed that view to them at that
time and the response was they were there to talk
to you of Justin Cook?

11

A. Yes.

12

Q. All right. Did you on any
other occasion attempt to make that view known to the
police? The view that Susan Nelles was not in your
view responsible because she had not been there for
some of the deaths?

13

A. I had made a police statement
to that - it was after the preliminary hearing.

14

Q. After the preliminary hearing?

15

A. Yes.

16

Q. At any time between that

17

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first interview on April 3rd and the end of the
preliminary hearing did you repeat your belief to
the police?

5

A. I had another interview and
I can't remember the interview itself so I don't
know whether I said it or not.

7

8

Q. All right.

I just want to go to a very few particular
matters if I may, Miss Coulson. Do I understand
it correctly that your recollection of individual
arrests and the particular events that occurred at
individual arrests is not particularly good?

13

A. That is right.

14

15

Q. Can I just ask you one
thing about the arrest of Allana Miller on the
night preceding that on which Cook died?

16

A. Yes.

17

18

Q. You were present during the
resuscitation effort on that child, were you not?

19

A. Yes.

20

21

Q. Can you tell me what you did
there?

22

23

24

A. What I did? I remember setting
up the defibrillator and I remember filling up the
IV; the buretrol was just about dry and I filled

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that up.

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Q. Do you know what was in the
buretrol or in the IV for that matter?

4

A. No, I don't remember.

5

Q. And you fill a buretrol what,
by releasing more of the fluid from the bag?

6

A. Yes.

7

Q. Down into the buretrol?

8

A. Yes.

9

Q. Just as a detour, please,
can you explain to me the process of flushing an
IV line? We have heard that referred to and it
occurs to me that you might be able to give us an
explanation that I at least have been lacking.

10

How do you do that?

11

A. Do you mean after when the
IV is blocked?

12

Q. All right. When would you
do it and how would you do it and why would you do
it?

13

A. If - when an antibiotic has
been given it is given over a period of time and
then what happens is a smaller - another amount of
IV solution is put into the buretrol and opened to
make sure that line is flushed with the IV solution

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3 and that the antibiotic then has gone from the tube
into the child.

4

5 Q. Okay. What do you do? You
put fluid into the buretrol?

6

7 A. Into the buretrol. The
buretrol is a long cylinder.

8

Q. Yes.

9

10 A. Piece of apparatus, and you
would put a small amount of fluid from the top of
the - there is a little dial at the top from the bag,
11 and you put 10 c's or something into the buretrol.

12

Q. Yes.

13

14 A. And then the solution flows
through the drip chamber through the IV tubing.

15

16 Q. You then open the line; you
remove whatever it is that regulates --

17

18 A. No, the regulator, you don't
flush it. You could flush it at a certain speed;
just have it so that the line is being flushed through
19 with the antibiotic.

20

21 Q. Okay. When flushing do you
let material flow through the line at a faster rate
22 than it would normally?

23

A. Quicker, yes.

24

25

Q. All right. And you do it to



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3 clear out anything that happens to be in the IV
4 line from either the medication that has been
administered or anything of that sort?

5

A. Yes.

6

7 Q. With respect to any of the
babies at whose arrest you were present, did you
8 ever see anything that you regarded as unusual or
9 that at the time excited your interest or suspicion
or concern?

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Q. Can you tell us about that
event, or those events please?

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A. I don't remember the child. I
have looked at it and from looking at the chart and
the time sheets I have narrowed it down to two
children.

4

Q. Yes, who are they?

5

A. Lombardo and Gionas.

6

Q. Yes.

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A. And it was during the arrest
the potassium results came back and they were high,
and the doctor ordered a plain bag of IV solution to
be hung, and at the end of the arrest the doctor
reached up and took the IV bag and put it into his
pocket.

Q. The plain IV bag that he had
ordered hung there?

A. No, the first bag that had been
up there, he reached up and took that down and put
it into his pocket.

Q. You don't know which child it
was? Are you able to tell us, if it were Gionas
which physician it was; if it were Lombardo which
physician it was?

A. I could but I can't be definite



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that it is one of those two children. I have narrowed it, it looks to me like it was one of those two, and then I would have to look at the charts to see which doctor it was.

6

Q. Did you make any comment or raise any question when you saw that occur?

7

A. Yes. I went over to him and asked him what he was doing.

8

Q. What did he say?

9

A. He was sending it down to the lab, he was looking for potassium.

10

Q. Is that what he said to you?

11

A. I either asked him if he was looking for a high potassium, or that is what he told me, I don't remember the exact conversation.

12

Q. What would a physician normally do if he wanted to send anything to the lab, whether it be the contents of an IV bag or anything else?

13

A. He would send it to the lab, send the bag to the lab for potassium.

14

Q. I take it he would not normally put the object into his pocket?

15

A. That's right.

16

Q. And it was that that caused you to raise the question?

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2 A. Yes.

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THE COMMISSIONER: I wonder if I could - there is quite a difference in the timing between Lombardo and Gonas; Gonas died on the 9th of March and Lombardo on the 23rd of December, that is three months. Isn't the fact that there is not - it's not three months, or nearly, it is two and a half months. Would that not assist you?

THE WITNESS: The only thing that I could remember was that there was another supervisor on with me and that I remember the room that it was in, that is why I narrowed it down to those two children, and I can't be certain which one it was.

THE COMMISSIONER: Do you remember the room it was in, that might help us, because have we not the rooms --

THE WITNESS: This other supervisor was the only supervisor that was on with me, we were the only two on --

THE COMMISSIONER: No, but if you could remember which room it was in you might be able to help us by determining --

THE WITNESS: That is why I came down to those two.

THE COMMISSIONER: They were both --



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THE WITNESS: They were both in that room and they both had high potassium.

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THE COMMISSIONER: I see, you have already anticipated everything I was going to say then.

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MR. LAMEK: Q. Indeed I take it from your reluctance to identify the doctor you cannot be absolutely certain it was indeed one or the other of those two?

9

A. That's right.

10

11

Q. It might possibly have been some other child?

12

A. It could have been.

13

14

Q. Did you subsequently hear anything more about the lab tests run on the IV bag, that IV bag?

15

16

A. I asked the doctor later on what the results were and he said they were okay.

17

Q. You asked that same doctor?

18

A. Yes.

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MR. ROLAND: Mr. Commissioner, I am sorry to interject here. We have heard this in the interview that took place and we have checked both possible doctors with respect to those children. One doctor was not even there and the other doctor says he doesn't have any recollection and he certainly



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2 would not have done it. So we have not been able to
3 track that down. We have been trying because we
4 heard this in the interview and both possible doctors
5 can't help us at all.

6 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes. All right,
7 thank you.

8 MR. LAMEK: Q. Although you may not
9 be able to identify the child and therefore the
10 attending physician at the time of this incident,
11 Miss Coulson, can you recall who it was, or whom it
12 was that you asked later whether there was any report
13 on the contents of the IV bag?

14 A. I know he had a mustache, that's
15 all I can remember.

16 Q. You have to beware of people
17 with mustaches.

18 THE COMMISSIONER: The trouble is they
19 are inclined to shave them off too, some people are
20 inclined to shave them off.

21 MR. LAMEK: Q. May I at least take it
22 it was a male doctor?

23 A. Yes.

24 MR. LAMEK: Mr. Commissioner, I am
25 going to be a few minutes longer, perhaps we could
complete it in the morning?



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THE COMMISSIONER: Yes. We will
recess now until 10 o'clock.

---- Whereupon the Hearing was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.
until 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, February 21st, 1984.

